

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6977

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03775

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, GW, NATO, PFOR, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE/CBM'S: FRG-SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE

EXCHANGE EXPECTED SOON

REF: USNATO 0598 DTG 041825Z FEB 76 (NOTAL)

1. AN FMOD STAFF OFFICER ADVISED AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON MARCH 5 THAT CURRENT DEFENSE MINISTRY PLANNING CALLS FOR A SIMULTANEOUS EXCHANGE OF GERMAN-RUSSIAN MILITARY ATTACHES ON APRIL 1. HE CAUTIONED THAT IT WAS ALWAYS POSSIBLE THAT UNEXPECTED DIFFICULTIES WOULD ARISE AND THE EXCHANGE WOULD NOT OCCUR ON THE DATE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION. HE CONTINUED THAT, FOLLOWING THE ATTACHE EXCHANGE WITH THE USSR, THE FRG PLANNED TO PROCEED WITH COMPARABLE EXCHANGES WITH BOTH THE ROMANIANS AND THE
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HUNGARIANS.

2. THE OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT GERMAN AND AMERICAN MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVERS WOULD TAKE PLACE ALMOST BACK TO BACK THIS FALL. THE GERMAN FTX "GREAT BEAR" WILL BE HELD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 6-10 TO BE FOLLOWED A FEW DAYS LATER BY EXERCISE REFORGER AS NOW TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED. HE REPEATED THE POINT MADE BY FRG NATO REP. CITRON (REFTEL) THAT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR THE ALLIANCE TO CONSIDER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HOW IT PLANNED TO DEAL WITH OBSERVER INVITATIONS FOR THESE MANEUVERS.

3. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE THE ACTUAL EXCHANGE OF GERMAN AND SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHES MAY BE DELAYED, IT SEEMS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT SUCH AN EXCHANGE WILL HAVE TAKEN PLACE PRIOR TO NATO'S FALL MANEUVER SERIES. THUS, A SOVIET MILITARY OFFICER WILL BE IN PLACE IN BONN AT THAT TIME. GIVEN THE RECENT SOVIET PERFORMANCE ON EXERCISE CAUCASUS, IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO LEARN WHETHER SOVIET CBM POLICY WILL HAVE EVOLVED TO THE POINT OF ACCEPTING THE FRG'S OBSERVER INVITATION SHOULD ONE BE EXTENDED.

HILLENBRAND

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